

## WPL offers "Hi-Tech for Everyone" Program

The Wilbraham Public Library staff will offer free workshops to introduce patrons to new technologies. The hour-long sessions will include overviews of special topics and demonstrations of services. Anyone interested in learning about the topics are invited to attend. Sessions will be held in the Brooks Room of the library at 2:00 p.m. and repeated at 7:00 p.m. Please contact the library to register in advance by calling 596-6141.

Thursday, February 8,

### *Downloadable Audiobooks*

Did you know you can access thousands of audiobooks from your home computer? Come and learn about the library's collections through NetLibrary/Recorded Books and Overdrive, types of players, and how to transfer to your player.

Thursday, February 22, *Blogs and RSS*

Are you overwhelmed with email newsletters and keeping up to date with your favorite websites? Come and learn about a variety of free programs to help you manage what you want to read online.

Additional workshops will be held in March to learn about podcasts and the library's new *My Library* TV product.

## WPL hosts the AARP Driver Safety Course in January

The Wilbraham Public Library will host the AARP Driver Safety Program for people age 50 and over in January. The two-session course will be taught by instructor Alan Karplus on January 10 and 11 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. January 12 will be reserved as a snowdate. The Driver Safety Course is a refresher course that strives to help participants tune-up their driving skills and update them on rules of the road. Participants will learn about normal age-related physical changes and how to adjust driving to allow for the changes. There is a \$10.00 materials fee for the course. Checks are preferred and should be made out to AARP. Please register in advance by calling the library at 596-6141.



## Why Should the Kids Have All the Fun?

"It's a Sporting Life: An Over the Mountain Series" continues on January 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilbraham Public Library with an evening of board games for adults. The Brooks Room will have stations set up with the *Book Lovers' Edition of Trivial Pursuit*, *Scrabble*, *Tribond*, and other games. Come and meet other fun-loving folks and beat the winter blues. Refreshments will be served. Please call 596-6141 to register.



## Friends Purchase Additional Museum Passes for Members

Now members of the Friends have more options for savings. If you are going stir crazy this winter, consider taking a short trip to one of these area attractions. Please call ahead to reserve the following passes that are available for a one-day loan.

*Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art (Admits 5)*

*Hancock Shaker Village (Admits 2 adults and 2 youth)*

*Historic Deerfield (Admits 4)*

*Holyoke Children's Museum (Admits 6)*

*The Mount Estate & Gardens (Admits one free adult and up to 4 half-price guests) (Seasonal - open April 28, 2007) NEW!*

*Norman Rockwell Museum (Admits 4) NEW!*

*Springfield Museums (Maximum value of \$26 savings)*

## Annual Friends of the Library Art Show Scheduled

Area artists are invited to participate in the annual Friends of the Library Art Exhibit that will be held in March in the Brooks Room of the Wilbraham Public Library. Artwork will be accepted February 14-26 and must be ready-to-hang. Artists age thirteen and up are invited to participate. There will be limited room available in display cases for freestanding pieces. A public reception is scheduled for Saturday, March 3, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. with refreshments provided by the Friends of the Library. For more information please contact the library at 596-6141.

## New Videos

The Friends of the Library generously funds the library's DVD collection. Some of the recent purchases include:

*Akeelah and the Bee*  
*Boynnton Beach Club*  
*Brick*  
*Click*  
*Da Vinci Code*  
*Firewall*  
*Friends With Money*  
*Goal! The Dream Begins*  
*Joyeux Noel*  
*Mission Impossible III*  
*Superman Returns*  
*The Thing About My Folks*  
*You, Me & Dupree*  
*V for Vendetta*

The library's DVDs have been reorganized to provide for better browsing. If you would like to learn about new titles, you can subscribe to the library's *Video Spotlight* email notice. Just stop by the Reference Desk and give us your email and we will add you to the list.

## Library Strategic Plan Calls for Challenging Initiatives

This fall the Wilbraham Public Library Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) completed a five-month planning process to write a five-year plan for library development. Steps included the following:

- In April the Library Board of Trustees invited community members to participate on the SPC, hired Vandermark Associates to conduct nine interviews with community leaders and four focus groups of senior, parent, teen, and business people, and commissioned the Local Community Research Group of the Social and Demographic Research Institute of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst to conduct a community survey of 2,000 residents.
- During June and July the SPC held two planning sessions to develop a vision for the library's future, write a new mission statement, and select five library service responses.
- In August the Library Director worked with library staff to write goals, objectives, and an action plan for FY2007-2011.
- In September the SPC convened for the third and final time to review the service responses and goals and objectives and approved the plan. The Board also endorsed and approved the plan, and it was sent on to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for their approval.

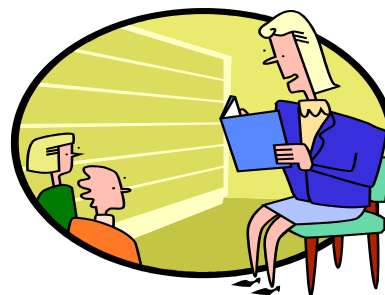
The library's goals for the next five years include the following initiatives:

- Conducting more and diverse library sponsored community programs and events both in the library and offsite to foster people's awareness of and interest in the community and the library.
- Creating greater access to online information through the library's website, calendar of community events, and library blog to increase people's awareness of and involvement in town life.
- Coordinating with local schools and supporting the schools' curricula to help meet students' educational needs.
- Providing access to a range of library instruction and information literacy opportunities for people to learn skills for finding, evaluating and using information effectively.
- Downsizing the library's collection to create spaces more conducive to reading and studying.
- Reallocating space within the library to meet space needs for high demand and underdeveloped services such as for children, teens, popular materials, and computer access.
- Upgrading the existing building to maintain a safe, healthy, comfortable and inviting library facility.

The Library Board of Trustees and Library Director thank all the people who helped develop this plan. They included the SPC members Ron Haislip-Hansberry, Martha Rickson, Sue Bunnell, Bill Fogarty, Kyle Rowe, Marianne Desmond. We also thank all the residents who were interviewed, participated in focus groups, or responded to the survey. The complete Wilbraham Public Library Strategic Plan FY2007-2011 is on file at the library.

**Library News** is written and edited by the Wilbraham Public Library staff and the Friends of the Library.  
Wilbraham Public Library, 25 Crane Park Drive, Wilbraham, MA 01095 (413) 596-6141 [www.wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org)  
Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs, 9-8, Wed. 12-8, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-4 (Summer Saturdays 9-1)

## Storytimes, Winter Reading Club, and a Visit by a Robot!



The **Winter Storytime** session will meet over a period of six weeks, from January 8 through February 16, and will accommodate over 90 children. The following times are offered: ages 2 – 3 ½ (with an adult) on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m., Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Fridays at 9:30 a.m. or Fridays at 10:30 a.m. The older group, for ages 3 ½ - 5, will meet on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. **Tremendous Toddler Two Step** will be held for children 12 - 24 months old on Mondays at 10:00 a.m., from January 22 – February 12. **Tremendous Toddlers** is 20 minutes of nursery rhymes, singing and music for toddlers and their parents or caregivers. It will be an especially active (marching, movement and dancing), fun-filled program that develops appreciation of language and understanding of symbols that prepare children for reading and a lifelong love for their library. Also this winter, there will be a six-week **Family Storytime** for all ages on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. Registration for all these groups will be held in the Brooks Room at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2 for Wilbraham residents. Phone calls will be taken on Tuesday, January 3. Non-residents may sign up on Wednesday, January 5, as space allows.

**Cover to Cover**, the book discussion groups for students, are on-going, meeting once a month. Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will be meeting Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on December 12, January 16, and February 13. Titles are as follows:

December 12 – **Indigo's Star** by Hilary McKay

January 16 – **Whispering to Witches** by Anna Dale

February 13 – **Magyk** by Angie Sage

The monthly book should be read before the meeting, in which opinions and questions will be posed, and refreshments will be served. Copies of each month's books will be available upon registration at the Children's Desk. Please address any questions to Cindy Rusczyk in the Children's Department.

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 will meet at 7:00 p.m. on December 13, January 17, and February 14. Titles are as follows:

December 13 – **What Child is This?** by Caroline Cooney

January 17 – **Turnabout** by Margaret Peterson Haddix

February 14 – **The Loud Silence of Francine Green** by Karen Cushman

Any questions about this age group should go to Susan Kent, Young Adult Specialist, at 596-6141.



During the school vacation week, there will be a fascinating multimedia space program for elementary school children. **Go For The Stars!** will be presented by Gary Pozzato on Thursday, February 22, at 10:00 a.m. You will meet ROBO the friendly robot who talks, moves and interacts with the audience, while learning about robotics, living in space and space travel. Mr. Pozzato has worked closely with NASA on several educational projects, was a certified flight instructor, and helped manufacture equipment for the NASA Space Suit, Space Shuttle Orbiter and the International Space Station. This program is brought to you by the Friends of the Library and the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts. Registration, beginning on February 13, is required as space is limited.

The Children's Department is holding a Winter Reading Club, "Sweet Treats", for preschoolers through fifth-graders during December and January. Children are asked to read any books they like and keep track of their own reading in order to be rewarded with stickers, a free book and a chance at raffle prizes. Logbooks and registration papers will be available starting on December 1st. Please visit or call the Children's Department at 596-6141 with any questions.



**Wilbraham Friends of the Library**  
**25 Crane Park Drive**  
**Wilbraham, MA 01095**

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## **Library News**

### **Winter 2007**

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### **Watch and Discuss International Films every month at the library!**

#### **January 13 – 4:00 p.m.**

##### **Hawaii, Oslo, (Norway, Norwegian with English subtitles, 124 min.)**

**Hawaii, Oslo** is the story of a handful of desperate people whose paths cross on the hottest day of the year in Oslo. Frode and Milla have their first child, but learn he will not live long without an expensive operation they cannot afford. Bobbie-Pop is a faded singer who tries to commit suicide. Leon is an institutionalized mental patient, who hopes to keep a 10-year-old date on his birthday with his teenage sweetheart. Leon's brother, Trygve, gets a weekend leave from prison to be with Leon on his birthday, but plans on using the furlough to escape. Overseeing Leon and protecting him is his guardian angel Vidar, Leon's best buddy at the institution, who sees things no one else can see, and who may be able to save everyone - except himself...



#### **February 10 – 4:00 p.m.**

##### **Forest for the Trees (Germany, German with English subtitles, 81 min.)**

Bursting with idealism, Melanie Pröschle, a young teacher from the countryside, starts her first job at a high school in the city. Desperate to fulfil her hopes, Melanie intends to do everything the right way. Politely she introduces herself to her neighbors with homemade schnapps. At her first day of school she gives a very ambitious speech for her colleagues. She wants to be a "fresh breeze" to the school, but it is not easy to start a new life, as Melanie copes with loneliness, established teachers and ninth grade students.

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Admission and free and popcorn and soda are served. Films have not been rated by the MPAA and are intended for a mature audience.*